



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2011 with funding from
Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners and the Institute of Museum and Library Services

THE NEW ENGLAND COLLEGE of OPTOMETRY

Commencement Exercises **2008**



"114 Years of Excellence in Optometric Education"

Sunday, the First of June
Two Thousand Eight
John Hancock Hall
Back Bay Events Center
Boston, Massachusetts

Academic Heraldry

The caps, gowns and hoods worn at college functions have their origins in the robes worn by monks and students in the middle ages to keep out the cold and damp. Today, the academic regalia have been standardized by tradition and agreement among institutions of higher learning.

The gowns for bachelor degrees have long, pointed sleeves and are worn closed. Masters degree holders wear gowns with oblong sleeves open at the wrist. The gown may be worn open or closed. Gowns for the doctoral degree carry long velvet panels down the front and have three velvet bars on the full sleeves. The velvet may be black or of a color distinctive to the field of study for which the degree is given. Gowns are usually black, but a few institutions now prescribe colors representative of the school.

Caps, also called mortarboards, may be of cloth or, for the doctoral outfit, velvet. The tassel is black or of a color appropriate to the field of study. Doctoral tassels may be gold.

The colors on the hoods provide the institutional identity and signify the field of study. The style of the hood is specific to the degree level, with doctoral hoods being larger, with wider velvet borders, and with a panel at the back. The silk lining of the hood is in the institutional colors and the velvet borders signify the field of the degree. Commonly seen colors are:

Arts, letters, humanities:	white
Architecture:	brown
Business:	tan
Dentistry:	lilac
Education:	light blue
Law:	purple
Library science:	lemon yellow
Medicine:	green
Optometry:	seafoam green
Philosophy:	dark blue
Public Administration:	peacock blue
Public Health:	salmon pink

Commencement Program

Processional

Marshall: Clifford Scott, OD '68, MPH

Invocation

Rabbi Thomas M. Alpert

Welcome

Elizabeth Chen, *President*

Steven P. Manfredi, *Chairman, Board of Trustees,
The New England College of Optometry*

Charles F. Mullen, OD '69, *Chairman, Board of Directors,
New England Eye Institute*

Philip Sutherland, OD '86, *President, Alumni Association*

Conferral of Honorary Degrees

David W. Ferris, OD '66, *Doctor of Ocular Science Recipient*
Comments

Charles F. Mullen, OD '69, will confer

Commissioner Janet LaBreck, *Doctor of Humane Letters Recipient*
Keynote Address

Elizabeth Chen, *President*, will confer

Valedictory Addresses

Emily Kachinsky, *Class of 2008*

Grace Lytle, *Class of 2008*

Presentation of Candidates for Master of Science in Vision Science Degrees

Steven Koevary, PhD, *Interim Vice President & Dean of Academic
Affairs*

Hooding the Candidates:

Nancy Coletta, OD, PhD, *Director of Graduate Studies*

Presentation of Candidates for Doctor of Optometry Degrees

Steven Koevary, PhD, *Interim Vice President & Dean of Academic
Affairs*

Hooding the Candidates:

Gary Chu, OD '95, MPH, *Vice President, New England Eye Institute*

Erik Weissberg, OD '97, *Faculty Chair*

Conferral of Degrees

Elizabeth Chen, *President*, will confer,
assisted by Terrance B. Neylon, EdD, *Vice President and Dean of
Students, Administration, & Alumni*

Pledge

Ronald R. Ferrucci, OD '74, *Vice Chair, Board of Trustees*
Leads the graduates in the Optometric Oath

Benediction

Rabbi Thomas M. Alpert

Recessional

Reception immediately following the ceremony

Doctor of Optometry Degree Recipients

Diane Ah-Kiné Ng Poon Hing	Tombeau Bay, Mauritius
Annisha Ali	Queens, NY
Tahmina Arieab	Toronto, Canada
Mohammad Ashfaq *	Rockville, MD
Hetel Bhakta +	Boston, MA
Poonam Bhana +	Plano, TX
Jennifer Lyn Boggie	Raleigh, NC
Michael Denis Buckley	Nashua, NH
Lesley Lynn Bursey	Lower Island Cove, NF, Canada
Darina Celiku	Salem, MA
Scott Phillip Chamberland	Thompson Station, TN
Ding Chen°~	Wenzhou, China
Rita Anoush Cherian	Belmont, MA
Chien-Yu Chiu *	Pacific Palisades, CA
Jamie Theresa Cho	Caledonia, ON, Canada
Seung-Hee Choi	Alpine, NJ
Kristin Allison Colonna	Chicago, IL
Vanessa A. Conenna	Brooklyn, NY
Petya Todorova Damyanova	Plovdiv, Bulgaria
Sara Mae Dayon	Rumford, ME
Jason Ronald Delisle	Tolland, CT
Julie Anne DeVita	Burlington, VT
Olivia Kimberly Do	Craine, St. Philip, Barbados
Mirjana Dordevic	Countryside, IL
Manilom Julie Douangphila	Winfield, KS
Sandra T. Duckworth	Tullahoma, TN
David Earl Eaton Jr.	Sanford, ME
Jasmintha Ellaaurie	St. Paul, AB, Canada
Justin Marcus Epstein	Toronto, Canada
Helen Farjad +	Toronto, Canada
Roberta Teixeira Feraco *	Everett, MA
Elizabeth Marie Garland	Largo, FL
Robert Dodd Groves	Merrimack, NH
Noemi Guemes +	Sotopalacios, Burgos, Spain
Ryan Craig Hollingsworth	Amarillo, TX
Christopher George Holstead	Chicago, IL
Veronica Marie Hormilla	Corpus Christi, TX
Sunni Leigh Houston	Monkton, MD
Kit Tung Ip	Toronto, ON, Canada
Margaret Mary Johnson	Northbridge, MA
Emily Stefan Kachinsky	Stoughton, MA
Manpreet Kaur Kalsi +	Nairobi, Kenya

Stephen J. Kang
Elliott Michael Keller
Wendy Pinsing Kok
Jacky Kin Wai Kong
Scott M. Lake
Eda Wing-Hing Lam
Aaron Samuel Law
Phiyen H. Le
Meng San Lee
Kalli K. Leung
Ting Li *
Weidong Li *
Dianna Lister
Thomas Emmet Little~
Janette Lilieng Liu
Kimberly Ann Lucik
Sivhour Ly
Bernadette Natalia Lynch
Grace Elizabeth Lytle
Rebecca Bennett Maida
Michael John Majerczyk
Alexis G. Malkin
Ruby Mangat
Karina Cecile Marcovitch
Alicia C. Marvin
Yasir Daifallah Masadeh
Paul Raymond Mayo II
Wasim Mohsini
Andrea L. Murphy
Chandani Rohit Nanavati
Mervet Nanouh
Nathan Huber Neville
Gregory Maxwell New
Anne Vu Nguyen
Kim-Lien T. Nguyen
Kimberly Anne Nolan
Armand Christian Oei~
Tyler R. Ohde
Jad Osmanski
Marisa Palumbo
Joanne Pamela Parungao
Pooja Jitendra Patel
Tejal M. Patel
David Andrew Paul
Sandra M. Payton
Robert V. Peyton
Duy Q. Pham
Tom-Harley Simon Poon

Los Angeles, CA
Campobello, SC
Richmond Hill, ON, Canada
Vancouver, BC, Canada
Barrie, ON, Canada
Easton, MA
Topeka, KS
Boston, MA
San Francisco, CA
San Leandro, CA
Streetsboro, OH
Galveston, TX
Seven Hills, OH
Feura Bush, NY
Omaha, NE
Goodrich, MI
Lowell, MA
Acton, MA
Bristol, RI
Watertown, MA
Bloomington, IL
Wichita, KS
Surrey, BC, Canada
Toronto, Canada
Arkport, NY
Union City, NJ
Beaufort, SC
Whitby, ON, Canada
Tarkio, MO
Riverside, CA
Sinking Spring, PA
Lincolnvillle, ME
Antioch, IL
Wesminster, CA
San Jose, CA
East Greenwich, RI
North Potomac, MD
Kansas City, MO
Glocester, RI
Walpole, MA
Des Plaines, IL
Los Angeles, CA
Mount Prospect, IL
Jamesville, NY
Boston, MA
Mansfield, MA
Fremont, CA
Edmonton, AB, Canada

Aparna Raghuram +
 Candice Ann Robinson
 Suzanne Meredith Rosenberg
 Audra L. Rowse
 Ranjot Singh Sandhu
 Kathryn Woods Satterstrom
 Guru Dutt Sharma *
 Suraj Parkash Sharma
 Rina Kaur Singh
 Kevin John Sjodahl
 Kyla M. Smith
 Kevin Ka Man So
 Mona Souferian
 Ryan Scott Stybel
 Erin Frances Swift
 Cindy Quyen Than
 Rhonda E. Thompson
 Mimi Kieu Tran
 Linh Thuy Thi Trang
 Jessy James Vaidhyan
 Hessam Vaziri *
 Dominique Giselle Vienneau
 Viktoriya Vilkomir
 Nicholas Roy Walworth
 Elizabeth Coppola Wikman
 Stacey Vanessa Wilmot
 Allen Wong

Boston, MA
 Randolph, ME
 Stoughton, MA
 Fairhaven, MA
 Sacramento, CA
 Vail, CO
 Memphis, TN
 Edmonton, AB, Canada
 Edmonton, AB, Canada
 Pleasanton, CA
 Haverhill, MA
 Fremont, CA
 Great Neck, NY
 West Bloomfield, MI
 South Williamson, KY
 Garden Grove, CA
 Winnipeg, MB, Canada
 Rosemead, CA
 Worcester, MA
 Mississauga, Canada
 Boston, MA
 Gananoque, ON, Canada
 Needham, MA
 Temecula, CA
 Guilford, CT
 Newton, MA
 Sacramento, CA

* Accelerated Optometric Degree Program

+ Advanced Standing International Program

° MSOD China Program

~ Expected to graduate September 2008 or later



Master of Science in Vision Science Degree Recipients

Baharak Asefzadeh
David Bradley Bodkin
Paul Raymond Mayo II
Nathan Huber Neville
Candice Ann Robinson
Kyla M. Smith

Winchester, MA
Mt. Pleasant, SC
Beaufort, SC
Lincolnton, ME
Randolph, ME
Haverhill, MA

Bachelor of Science in Optometry Degree Recipient

Davin E. Chong
Wendy Kathleen Crusberg
Dominique Giselle Vienneau
John Wang

Sherwood Park, AB, Canada
Dover, NH
Gananoque, ON, Canada
Malden, MA

The information in this program should not be considered as verification that a degree was received. All inquiries should be directed to the Registrar's Office.



*Aristotle once said,
"All who have meditated on the art of governing
mankind have been convinced that the fate of
empires depends on the education of youth."*

Candidates for Residency Certification

Cornea and Contact Lenses

Kelly Blake, OD
Nathaniel DellaVedova, OD

The New England College of Optometry
The New England College of Optometry

Community Health Optometry

Keyur Patel, OD '07
Mila Ioussifova, OD '07

Dimock Community Health Center
Dorchester House Multi-Service Center

Ocular Disease

Christina Chiang, OD
Anupam Laul, OD

Manchester VA Medical Center
Ophthalmic Consultants of Boston

Pediatric Optometry

Justin Smith, OD '07
Maria Varela, OD '07

The New England College of Optometry
The New England College of Optometry

Primary Eye Care

Julie Blacksmith, OD '07
Justin Cole, OD '07
Aaron Olstein, OD
Amanda Verprauskus, OD

VA Vermont- White River Junction campus
VA Vermont- White River Junction campus
VA Connecticut - Newington campus
VA Connecticut - Newington campus

Primary Eye Care - Geriatric Optometry

Shelly Adams, OD
Sung Yom, OD '07

Bedford VA Medical Center
Bedford VA Medical Center

Primary Eye Care - Ocular Disease

Stephanie Battista, OD, MS '07
James Belanger, OD, MS '07
Maureen Finley Arthurs, OD
Kevin Grant, OD
Juliana Grove, OD
Beth Harper, OD
Elaine Icban, OD
Brian Murphy, OD '07
Kristin Stanley, OD '07

VA Boston- Brockton campus
VA Boston- Jamaica Plain campus
VA Boston- Jamaica Plain campus
VA Boston- Brockton/Worcester campuses
VA Boston- West Roxbury campus
VA Boston- Jamaica Plain campus
VA Boston- West Roxbury campus
VA Boston- Brockton campus
VA Boston- Brockton campus

Primary Eye Care - Low Vision Rehabilitation

Justin Meeks, OD
Kristin Protosow, OD '07
Jordan Zinn, OD

VA Connecticut - West Haven campus
VA Connecticut - West Haven campus
VA Connecticut - West Haven campus

2008 Honorary Degree Recipients

Commissioner Janet LaBreck

Doctor of Humane Letters

Keynote Address

Janet LaBreck is the Commissioner of the Massachusetts Commission for the Blind (MCB). She is the first legally blind individual to receive an honorary degree from the College. She was named Commissioner in 2007 after serving with the MCB for 22 years and is nationally recognized for her work on vocational rehabilitation issues. She successfully facilitated the development and implementation of a national employment network for the blind in collaboration with the Council of State Administrators of Vocational Rehabilitation. The Commission for the Blind was created in 1906 to provide “the highest quality rehabilitation and social services leading to independence and economic self-sufficiency” for blind and visually impaired individuals. Helen Keller was one of the original commissioners.

David W. Ferris, OD '66

Doctor of Ocular Science

David W. Ferris, OD, is a 1966 graduate and current Corporator of NECO. He is the founder of Dr. David Ferris & Associates in Warwick, Rhode Island, and is a third generation optometrist with over 40 years of experience in eye care. He is a former president of the American Optometric Association and the Rhode Island Optometric Association, as well as Chairman of the Rhode Island State Board of Optometry. He is credited with playing the lead role in obtaining Federal approval for optometry to be covered by Medicare. “Dr. Ferris has been a role model for generations of students and professionals and is one of the national leaders in the profession of optometry,” said President Elizabeth Chen in announcing his selection. An active member of his community, Dr. Ferris is a member of the Warwick Rotary Club and the Central Rhode Island Chamber of Commerce. He has served as a City Councilman in the City of Cranston, on the Board of Directors of the Trudeau Center, and as a member of the Narragansett Bay Water Quality Commission.

Personal Achievement Awards

F. Dow Smith Award	<i>Tom-Harley Simon Poon</i>
Dr. Hyman R. Kamens Award	<i>Alexis G. Malkin</i>
National Optometric Student Association Award	<i>Rhonda E. Thompson</i>
Dr. Edward Joseph Troendle, Jr. Award	<i>Meng San Lee</i>
Alumni Association Award	<i>Meng San Lee</i>

Academic Awards

Valedictory and Beta Sigma Kappa Silver Medal	<i>Emily Stefan Kachinsky</i> <i>Grace Elizabeth Lytle</i>
Salutatorian Award	<i>Alexis G. Malkin</i>
Advanced Standing International Program Scholastic Achievement Award	<i>Aparna Raghuram</i>
William R. Baldwin Scholastic Achievement Award	<i>Ting Li</i>

Faculty Awards

Foster Namias Award	<i>Erik Weissberg, OD '97</i>
Carroll Martus Award	<i>Mark O'Donoghue, OD '82</i>



Clinical Awards

Alcon Award	<i>Justin Marcus Epstein</i>
Asarkof Scholarship	<i>Hessam Vaziri</i>
William C. Barrett Memorial Scholarship	<i>Nathan Huber Neville</i>
Class of 1969 Scholarship	<i>Sunni Leigh Houston</i>
COVD Award for Excellence in Vision Therapy Award	<i>Rebecca Bennett Maida</i>
Eschenbach Award for Excellence in Low Vision	<i>Marisa Palumbo</i>
William Feinbloom Low Vision Award	<i>Kevin Ka Man So</i>
David J. Kerko Low Vision Award	<i>Hessam Vaziri</i>
Ned S. Witkin Leadership in Low Vision Award	<i>Alexis G. Malkin</i>
Marchon Eyewear Practice Management Award	<i>Elliott Michael Keller</i>
The New England College of Optometry Clinic Award	<i>Kimberly Anne Nolan</i>
RGP Lens Institute Award	<i>Kalli K. Leung</i>
Ira Schwartz Behavioral Vision Award	<i>Aparna Raghuram</i>
Vistakon Award of Excellence in Contact Lenses	<i>Emily Stefan Kachinsky</i>

Beta Sigma Kappa Honor Society

Hetel Bhakta
Poonam Bhana
Sandra Duckworth
David Eaton Jr.
Jasmintha Ellaurie
Justin Epstein *
Helen Farjad
Elizabeth Garland
Noemi Guemes
Ryan Hollingsworth
Veronica Hormilla
Sunni Houston
Kit Tung Ip
Emily Kachinsky *
Manpreet Kalsi
Jacky Kong*
Scott Lake*
Aaron Law
Phiyen Le*
Ting Li
Grace Lytle*
Rebecca Maida
Michael Majerczyk
Alexis Malkin*
Alicia Marvin *
Paul Mayo*
Wasim Mohsini
Nathan Neville*
Kim-Lien Nguyen
Kimberly Nolan
Jad Osmanski
Aparna Raghuram
Candice Robinson*
Kathryn Satterstrom
Suraj Sharma
Kevin Sjodahl
Kyla Smith
Kevin So
Ryan Stybel
Erin Swift
Dominique Vienneau

**Four-Year Participation*

The New England College of Optometry

Board of Trustees

Officers of the Board

Steven P. Manfredi, *Chairman*
Ronald R. Ferrucci, OD '74, *Vice Chairman*
Joan M. Exford, OD, *Treasurer*
Brian S. Klinger, OD, *Secretary*
Francis L. DiMella, AIA, *Member at Large*
Norman C. Spector, JD, *Member at Large*
Elizabeth Chen, *President, NECO*

Members of the Board

Myron Allukian, Jr., DDS, MPH
Matthew Bauer, ODI, *Student Representative*
A. Robert Child, Jr., OD '78
Matthew Elgart, OD '66
Howard Greenberg
Ann Hudson, CPA
Colin L. Leitch, MDiv
Charles F. Mullen, OD '69
Mary K. Scott, OD '68
Robert Sekuler, PhD
Irwin M. Shwom, OD '80
Richard N. Small, CPA
Philip Sutherland, OD '86, *President, Alumni Association*
Erik Weissberg, OD '97, *Faculty Representative*
Richard L. Wallingford, OD '75

Trustees Emeritus

Joseph J.F. Bickford, OD '65
Lester M. Brackley, OD '68
G. Burt Holmes, OD '52, LHD
Adelbert Parrot, OD '34 *deceased*
Paul Taylor, OD '55

The New England College of Optometry Corporators

Richard Angelone, CPA
William R. Baldwin, OD, PhD, LHD
Linda Bennett, OD '80
Lester M. Brackley, OD '68, *Trustee Emeritus*
Edward L. Burke, JD
David J. Caban, OD '77
Charles Clark
Michael Cohn, OD '77
Sylvio L. Dupuis, OD
David W. Ferris, OD '66
Elmer Freeman
Philip E. Friedman, OD '62
Elaine S. Garrett
Carl F. Gruning, OD '66
Donald Higgins, OD '82
Celia Anne Hinrichs, OD '79
Robert H. Honnors, OD '63
Jia Qu, MD, LHD
Barbara Kamens
Cynthia P. Macdonald, JD
Norman A. MacLeod
David Mills, OD '80
Joseph F. Molinari, OD, MEd '74
Mark O'Donoghue, OD '82
Joseph F. Osmanski, OD '74
Gerard Phelan
David A.V. Reynolds, DPH
Fernando Hidalgo Santa Cruz, OD '87
Ronald J. Serra, OD '70
Thomas M. Sheehan, OD '64
Solomon K. Slobins, OD '50
John A. Stefanini, JD
Irwin B. Suchoff, OD '59, DOS
Michael Taylor, MEd
Thomas F. Terry, OD '75
William R. Tolford, OD '55
Alison Bibbons Ward



Acknowledgements

***The New England College of Optometry
joins our graduates in thanking.....***

*families and friends for their unwavering support and
encouragement;*

*the many members of the college community whose hard work
and dedication helped to make this weekend possible.*

***We congratulate our alumni, Class of 1958, who are celebrating
their 50th reunion year.***

We are pleased to have the following special guests.....

Mrs. David W. Ferris

Mr. Russell LaBreck

Steven M. Rothstein, *President, Perkins School for the Blind*

JudyAnn Bigby, MD, *Secretary of Health and Human Services,
Commonwealth of Massachusetts*

Jean McGuire, PhD, *Assistant Secretary, Office of Disability
Policy and Programs, Commonwealth of
Massachusetts*

Harold and Mitzi Witkin, William Witkin, and Laura Speizman,
members of the Ned Witkin, OD '83, family



The Optometric Oath*

With full deliberation I freely and solemnly pledge that:

I will practice the art and science of optometry faithfully and conscientiously, and to the fullest scope of my competence.

I will uphold and honorably promote by example and action the highest standard, ethics and ideals of my chosen profession and the honor of the degree, Doctor of Optometry, which has been granted me.

I will provide professional care for those who seek my services, with concern, with compassion and with due regard for their human rights and dignity.

I will place the treatment of those who seek my care above personal gain and strive to see that none shall lack proper care.

I will hold as privileged and inviolable all information entrusted to me in confidence by my patients.

I will advise my patients fully and honestly of all which may serve to restore, maintain or enhance their vision and general health.

I will strive continuously to broaden my knowledge and skills so that my patients may benefit from all new and efficacious means to enhance the care of human vision.

I will share information cordially and unselfishly with my fellow optometrists and other professionals for the benefit of patients and the advancement of human knowledge and welfare.

I will do my utmost to serve my community, my country and humankind as a citizen as well as an optometrist.

I hereby commit myself to be steadfast in the performance of this my solemn oath and obligation.

**Adopted by the American Optometric Association and by
the Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry*

